

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 139677
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-13
SIG-03 MMO-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 HA-05 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08
ACDA-12 /129 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLSWING/P:GEMOOSE:WLS
APPROVED BY P:DDNEWSOM
AF:LWALKER (SUBST.)
AF/C:LDJUNIOR (SUBST.)
AF/W:TWMSMITH (SUBST.)
EUR/WE:MCLISSFELT (INFO.)
IO/UNA:AHOLLOWAY (INFO.)

-----045400 020557Z /11

O 020518Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MOPS, CG, NI, CU, UR

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PAGE 02 STATE 139677

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS ON US INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA
REF: (A) LAGOS 6795; (B) STATE 137343
1. STATE 137343 SET FORTH OUR UNDERSTANDING OF, AND PLAN-
NING FOR, JUNE 5 MEETING IN PARIS CALLED BY FRENCH TO CON-
SIDER SECURITY AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF ZAIRIAN SITUATION.
ACTION ADDRESSEES OF REFTEL WERE REQUESTED THEREIN TO PRO-
VIDE CERTAIN INFORMATION WHICH DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO NEED

URGENTLY.

2. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF LAGOS 6795 NEED TO CONSULT WITH THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BECOME URGENT. TALKING POINTS FOLLOW ON WHICH YOU SHOULD DRAW IN APPROACHING GARBA OR OTHER APPROPRIATE SENIOR OFFICIAL ON SUBJECT OF UPCOMING JUNE 5 PARIS MEETING AND GENERAL QUESTION OF OUR ASSISTANCE TO ORIGINAL AIR RESCUE OPERATION IN SHABA PROVINCE:

-- OUR DECISION TO PROVIDE LIMITED SUPPORT, PRIMARILY AIR LIFT, TO THE AIR RESCUE OPERATION LED BY THE FRENCH AND THE BELGIANS IN COOPERATION WITH THE ZAIRIANS WAS BASED PRIMARILY ON HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS. OUR PRINCIPAL CONCERN WAS FOR THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF ALL THE RESIDENTS OF THE AREA -- BOTH EXPATRIATE AND ZAIRIAN. BUT WE WERE ALSO CONCERNED BY THIS RENEWED VIOLATION OF ZAIRE'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY BY AN EXTERNAL FORCE, AND THE EFFECT OF THIS ATTACK, NOT ONLY ON ZAIRE'S ECONOMY AND SECURITY, BUT ON PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE REGIONS AS WELL. -- FROM THE OUTSET IT WAS OUR INTENTION TO STRICTLY LIMIT OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESCUE OPERATION IN SHABA, IN WHICH THE FRENCH AND BELGIANS -- BECAUSE OF THE THREAT TO THEIR CITIZENS -- WERE OBLIGED TO TAKE THE LEAD. FOR THE MOST PART, OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE OPERATION WAS TERMINATED WITHIN ONE WEEK.

-- WE ARE NOW CONFRONTED WITH A SITUATION IN WHICH THE RECENT INVASION HAS SERIOUSLY DISRUPTED THE SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIAL

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ECONOMIC LIFE OF SHABA. GIVEN THE URGENCY OF THIS SITUATION, WE HAVE AGREED TO ATTEND A MEETING IN PARIS ON JUNE 5 TO DISCUSS WITH THE FRENCH AND REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER INTERESTED EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO RESTORE THE SITUATION IN SHABA. THIS MEETING WILL ALLOW US TO ASSESS THE IMMEDIATE IMPACT OF THE SHABA INVASION IN PREPARATION FOR A LONG-PLANNED MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON JUNE 13 AND 14, TO CONSIDER LONGER RANGE PLANS FOR ZAIRE'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

-- WE RECOGNIZE, HOWEVER, THAT BEFORE THERE CAN BE A RESUMPTION OF THE MINING OPERATIONS IN SHABA, WHICH ARE CRITICAL TO THE ZAIRIAN ECONOMY, SOME MEANS WILL HAVE TO BE FOUND TO ASSURE SECURITY IN THE AREA. IN THIS REGARD, WE HAVE TOLD THE FRENCH THAT WE FIND THE IDEA OF A MULTI-NATION AFRICAN PEACEKEEPING FORCE, TO REPLACE FRENCH AND BELGIAN FORCES PRESENTLY IN SHABA, AN ATTRACTIVE POSSIBILITY WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION.

-- WE ARE AWARE THAT THE FRENCH AND OTHERS HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE CREATION OF A PERMANENT INTER-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE. FOR OUR PART, WE HAVE NOT GIVEN ANY

CONSIDERATION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF OUR SUPPORTING SUCH
A FORCE. OUR ATTENTION HAS FOCUSSED STRICTLY ON THE
PRESENT SITUATION IN ZAIRE.

-- THE IDEA OF WITHDRAWING FRENCH AND BELGIAN FORCES AND
REPLACING THEM WITH AN AFRICAN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IS
CONSISTENT WITH OUR BELIEF THAT AFRICANS SHOULD BE ALLOWED
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-- WE BELIEVE THE WITHDRAWAL OF EUROPEAN FORCES FROM
THE AREA COULD HELP TO REDUCE CURRENT TENSIONS BETWEEN
ZAIRE AND ANGOLA AND WOULD BE MORE CONDUCTIVE TO EFFORTS

TO FIND A MORE PERMANENT SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS THAT HAVE
EXISTED BETWEEN THOSE TWO COUNTRIES SINCE THE END OF
THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR.

-- WE RECALL NIGERIA'S PAST EFFORTS TO HELP BRING ABOUT
AN IMPROVEMENT IN ZAIRIAN/ANGOLAN RELATIONS AND HOPE
THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT MIGHT FIND WAYS TO RENEW THESE
EFFORTS IN THE FUTURE. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 139677

ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: AF/C:RKATES

APPROVED BY: AF/C:LJUNIOR

S/S-O:KDSCOTT

-----071082 040220Z /62

O 040200Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE
CINCMAC IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE 0369
DOD WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139677

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 139677 SENT ACTION LAGOS INFO KINSHASA,
BRUSSELS, BONN, LONDON, LUSAKA, MAPUTO, MOSCOW, HAVANA, TUNIS,
PARIS, DAR ES SALAAM 02 JUN 78

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MOPS, CG, NI, CU, UR

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UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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